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Coles/Hill House
Oakley Vicinity
Private

First quarter of
19th century

This small one and a half story frame house with an original block of one room downstairs and one upstairs is representative of the dwellings occupied by many small landowners in the 18th and into the 19th century.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

SM-311
MAGI # 1903115304

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC The Coles/Hill House

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER West side of Oakley Road, 0.5 mile south of junction of Oakley and Burch Roads.

CITY, TOWN

Oakley

☒ VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

7

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

St. Mary's

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

☐ DISTRICT

☐ BUILDING(S)

☒ STRUCTURE

☐ SITE

☐ OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

☐ PUBLIC

☒ PRIVATE

☐ BOTH

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

☐ IN PROCESS

☐ BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

☒ OCCUPIED

☐ UNOCCUPIED

☐ WORK IN PROGRESS

ACCESSIBLE

☒ YES: RESTRICTED

☐ YES: UNRESTRICTED

☐ NO

PRESENT USE

☐ AGRICULTURE

☐ COMMERCIAL

☐ EDUCATIONAL

☐ ENTERTAINMENT

☐ GOVERNMENT

☐ INDUSTRIAL

☐ MILITARY

☐ MUSEUM

☐ PARK

☒ PRIVATE RESIDENCE

☐ RELIGIOUS

☐ SCIENTIFIC

☐ TRANSPORTATION

☐ OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Lettie Dent Gough
Fannie Jo Dent

Telephone #:

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Oakley

☐ VICINITY OF

Maryland

STATE, zip code

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,

REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. St. Mary's County Courthouse

Liber #: P. 33 216

Folio #: 119

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Leonardtown

STATE

Maryland

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

None

DATE

☐ FEDERAL ☐ STATE ☐ COUNTY ☐ LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION**CONDITION**

☐ EXCELLENT
☒ GOOD
☐ FAIR

☐ DETERIORATED
☐ RUINS
☐ UNEXPOSED

CHECK ONE

☐ UNALTERED
☒ ALTERED

CHECK ONE

☒ ORIGINAL SITE
☐ MOVED DATE _____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

This well-built, one and a half story frame house stands atop a knoll, facing south. The house consists of a central (and original) block to which a shed kitchen has been attached to the north (back), a larger shed room to the west, and a shed porch supported by unturned posts to the south. A lean-to shelter was built onto the eastern side. The facade of the original block consists of two bays, a front door centrally located with a double hung sash window to the east. A brick chimney laid in common bond and with a tall narrow base shouldering in at the first story level ascends the east gable end. On either side of it, on both floors, is let a double hung sash window. The A roof is sheathed with tin today, but in earlier times, wood shingles served the purpose. Synthetic tar paper siding, designed to imitate tan bricks, now clad the exterior walls.

The frame is of the post and beam type, with the studs, which were cut by an up and down saw, morticed, tenoned, and pegged into the plates. The studs were incised with Roman numerals, but they were not laid in place sequentially, suggesting that they were probably re-used timbers.

The original block of the house consisted of one room downstairs and one upstairs, to which a box staircase led. The upstairs was unheated.

Behind the house are the remains of the farm yard: the wood pile, water pump, and small sheds and, in the distance, the tobacco barn made of a hewn timber frame.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD		AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)	
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION			

SPECIFIC DATES First quarter of 19th century. BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

This house was probably built as the residence of a small landowner in the last decade of the 18th or first decades of the 19th century. This is indicated by the fact that though it was small, the house was constructed of good materials, carefully put in place, and with interior features, such as the mantelpiece, that show stylistic aspirations and attainment. In addition, had it been a non-landowner's dwelling, it probably would not have had as many (nor as large) glazed windows *in the* double hung sashes, but would have had wooden shutters instead.

In the last quarter of the 19th century, it is known that a black tenant family occupied this dwelling, the family of Robert Ed Coles, whose daughter, Lucy, married Steven Jones, whose house has been recorded as part of this survey. This dwelling is now occupied by a white tenant family, that of J. Wilma Hill. It is not known if the original occupants were white or black, but according to Lucy Coles Jones, who is 91 years old, the house had always been occupied by black families as far back as she had ever heard during her childhood in the 1890's.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY _____

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION _____

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE

COUNTY

STATE

COUNTY

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

George W. McDaniel

ORGANIZATION

Maryland Commission on Afro-American History and Culture

DATE

STREET & NUMBER

20 Dean Street

TELEPHONE

CITY OR TOWN

Annapolis, Maryland

STATE

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 267-1438



SM-311

Coles-Hill House

ROBERT Ed COLES

STMA - 311

OAKLEY, Md.

South ~~East~~ facade

GWM D 3/77



ROBERT Ed COLES

STMA — 311

Oakley, Md.

EAST VIEW

GWM — 3/77